

## Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-11 H-01 INR-10  
INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06  
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 NRC-05 IO-13  
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DOE/ISA: V HUDGINS  
DOE/IA: R SLAWSON  
OES/NET/EIC: D HOYLE  
L/OES R S LOA

-----008834 161713Z /23

P 161514Z MAR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067703

USIAEA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, PARM, MNUC, MX, US

SUBJECT: US-MEXICO DISCUSSIONS ON NUCLEAR MATTERS

REFERENCES: (A) STATE 41422; (B) MEXICO 2856; (C) MEXICO  
2963; (D) MEXICO 2966; (E) VIENNA 1319; (F) STATE 59629

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1. FOR MEXICO: WE HAD PLANNED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF VISIT  
TO THE U.S. OF FONSEC DIRECTOR IN CHIEF FOR INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANIZAT;ON AFFAIRS GONZALEZ GALVEZ TO DISCUSS A BROAD  
RANGE OF NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND NUCLEAR COOPERATION  
ISSUES. HOWEVER, APPARENTLY DUE TO PRESSURE OF MEXICAN  
BUSINESS AT UN, HE DID NOT VISIT THE DEPARTMENT FOR  
DISCUSSIONS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES AS WAS PREVIOUS-

LY ANTICIPATED. ACCORDINGLY, EMBASSY MAY AT ITS DISCRETION DRAW ON FOLLOWING IN DISCUSSIONS WITH GONZALEZ GALVEZ WHEN HE RETURNS TO MEXICO NEXT WEEK, OR WITH OTHER APPROPRIATE MEXICAN OFFICIALS.

2. REFTTEL F PROVIDES BASIC GUIDANCE FOR DISCUSSIONS RE NUCLEAR SUPPLY AND/OR RELATED MATTERS, INCLUDING REQUIREMENTS UNDER NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION LAW OF 1978, WHICH WAS SIGNED BY PRESIDENT ON MARCH 10. WE ARE WELL AWARE OF THE POTENTIAL DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN THE EXISTING

SITUATION AND WE DESIRE TO RESOLVE THESE DIFFICULTIES IN A MANNER WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO CONTINUE OUR NUCLEAR COOPERATION WITH MEXICO. WE ALSO PLAN TO CONFER ON TACTICS U.S. SHOULD FOLLOW TO BRING ABOUT UNIVERSAL ADHERENCE TO THE TREATY OF TLATELOLCO AND SEEK MEXICAN VIEWS ON BEST WAY FOR THE U.S. TO BE OF FURTHER ASSISTANCE WITHIN THE REGION IN NUCLEAR COOPERATION.

3. WE WOULD LIKE TO BEGIN A DIALOGUE WITH MEXICANS ON SOME OF THE EXISTING AND POTENTIAL PROBLEMS RELATED TO COOPERATION IN THE ASSESSMENT OF PHYSICAL SECURITY AT THE LAGUNA VERDE PROJECT AND THE SALAZAR NUCLEAR CENTER. IT SHOULD BE STRESSED THAT WE DO NOT WANT THESE POTENTIAL PROBLEMS TO DEVELOP INTO AN ISSUE WHICH MIGHT BECOME AN IMPEDIMENT IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. WE ARE HOPEFUL  
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THAT A WAY WILL BE FOUND TO ACCOMMODATE MEXICAN CONCERNS AND U.S. NEED TO MAKE PHYSICAL SECURITY VISITS TO MEXICO. SUCH VISITS HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN MADE TO YUGOSLAVIA, ROMANIA, PAKISTAN, PERU, URUGUAY, PARAGUAY, AND MALAYSIA, ALL COUNTRIES WITH WHICH THE U.S. HAS NO BILATERAL AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION.

4. WITH REGARD TO PHYSICAL SECURITY PROBLEM, WE WILL BE PLEASED TO FACILITATE ARRANGEMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE U.S. AGENCIES TO RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY TO THE FORMAL REQUEST BY GOM THROUGH IAEA TO MAKE AVAILABLE U.S. EXPERT(S) TO PROVIDE ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO MEXICAN AUTHORITIES ON PHYSICAL PROTECTION ASPECTS OF LAGUNA VERDE. HOWEVER, WE WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST THAT SUCH ASSISTANCE, TO BE ALL INCLUSIVE, ALSO COVER NUCLEAR FACILITIES UTILIZING HEU; PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF RECENT MEXICAN EXPORT LICENSE APPLICATION TO U.S. NRC FOR HEU FOR USE IN THE SALAZAR RESEARCH REACTOR. THUS, IN ADDITION TO LAGUNA VERDE, WE WOULD DESIRE THAT A VISIT TO THE SALAZAR NUCLEAR CENTER BE INCLUDED IN U.S. EXPERTS' ITINERARY. IN ADDITION, WE WOULD HOPE ITINERARY COULD INCLUDE PRELIMINARY VISIT TO INEN HEADQUARTERS TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON LAWS, RULES

AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING PHYSICAL SECURITY IN MEXICO.

5. IN CONVEYING U.S. READINESS TO FACILITATE ASSISTANCE REQUESTED THROUGH IAEA ON PHYSICAL SECURITY, WE SHOULD STRESS THE FACT THAT ON THE U.S. SIDE RESPONSIBILITY AND EXPERTISE IN PHYSICAL SECURITY MATTERS REST WITHIN SEVERAL USG AGENCIES, LARGELY BECAUSE OF SEPARATION OF GOVERNMENT-OWNED FACILITIES AND COMMERCIAL SECTOR AND FACT THAT U.S. LAW GOVERNING NUCLEAR EXPORTS ACCORDS VARIOUS ROLES TO SEVERAL USG AGENCIES. THEREFORE, PULLING TOGETHER A 3 - 4 MAN TEAM TO VISIT MEXICAN NUCLEAR INSTALLATIONS AND PROVIDE ASSISTANCE AS REQUESTED BY MEXICAN AUTHORITIES COULD

HELP MEET REQUIREMENTS OF BOTH COUNTRIES. TO SUPPLEMENT  
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THIS ASSISTANCE, WE WOULD BE WILLING TO HAVE ONE MEMBER OF TEAM REMAIN IN MEXICO FOR UP TO TWO WEEKS AND TO RECEIVE MEXICAN OFFICIALS IN THE U.S. FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING THE PHYSICAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE REQUESTED THROUGH THE IAEA (SEE REFTEL E) WHICH IN ORDER TO BE AS HELPFUL AS POSSIBLE WOULD INCLUDE VISITS TO U.S. NUCLEAR FACILITIES. IN ADDITION, THE U.S. IS CURRENTLY DEVELOPING A DETAILED SYLLABUS FOR TRAINING COURSE AIMED AT FULFILLING THE NEEDS OF OTHER COUNTRIES TO PROVIDE PHYSICAL PROTECTION FOR NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS. THIS COURSE WILL BE JOINTLY SPONSORED BY THE IAEA AND THE USG AND WILL BE INITIALLY OFFERED IN NOVEMBER 1978 TO REPRESENTATIVES FROM STATES INVITED BY THE IAEA. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT MEXICO'S NEED FOR DETAILED ASSISTANCE IN CONNECTION WITH LAGUNA VERDE COULD BE ACCOMMODATED BY ATTENDANCE OF MEXICAN REPRESENTATIVES AT THE FORTHCOMING COURSE AND, IF NECESSARY, BY SUBSEQUENT REQUESTS FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE.

6. U.S. MISSION VIENNA IS REQUESTED TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO OBTAIN IAEA CONCURRENCE THAT PLAN OUTLINED IN PARAS 4 AND 5 ABOVE WOULD CONSTITUTE SATISFACTORY RESPONSE TO REQUEST PER REFTEL E.

7. FOR EMBASSY MEXICO CITY. UPON RECEIPT OF IAEA CONCURRENCE PER PARA 6, WE WILL PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH DETAILS OF TEAM COMPOSITION AND PROPOSED VISIT SCHEDULE. AS EMBASSY AWARE, IT HAS SINCE 1974 BEEN A POLICY OF U.S. TO ASSURE THAT ANY COUNTRY RECEIVING SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR MATERIALS, (I.E., HEU OR PLUTONIUM), IS COMMITTED TO MAINTAIN ADEQUATE PHYSICAL SECURITY OVER SUCH MATERIAL. IN ADDITION, RECENTLY ENACTED NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION LAW REQUIRES THE MAINTENANCE OF ADEQUATE PHYSICAL SECURITY AS ONE OF THE EXPLICIT CONDITIONS  
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NECESSARY FOR ISSUANCE OF AN EXPORT LICENSE. THUS, SINCE MEXICO HAS RECENTLY REQUESTED APPROXIMATELY SEVEN (7) KILOGRAMS OF HEU FOR FUELING U.S.-SUPPLIED RESEARCH REACTOR AT SALAZAR NUCLEAR CENTER, WE CANNOT AVOID THE NECESSITY OF CONDUCTING A REVIEW AND MAKE AN ASSESSMENT OF THE SECURITY AFFORDED US-SUPPLIED NUCLEAR MATERIALS AND FACILITIES. CURRENT U.S. POLICY IS NOT TO SUPPLY MORE THAN FIVE (5) KILOGRAMS OF HEU, WHICH FALLS UNDER CATEGORY I OF IAEA PHYSICAL SECURITY GUIDELINES UNLESS WE HAVE DETERMINED THROUGH A TECHNICAL VISIT THAT ADEQUATE PHYSICAL SECURITY WILL BE MAINTAINED. (THE QUESTION OF POSSIBLE U.S. SUPPLY OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ADDITIONAL SEVEN KILOGRAMS OF HEU IS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY THE FACT THAT THE SUPPLY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE U.S., MEXICO, AND IAEA UNDER WHICH BOTH THE RESEARCH REACTOR AND ITS ASSOCIATED FUEL WERE PROVIDED EXPIRED IN 1977.) VANCE

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## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
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